

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Application in light of the Final Office Action mailed April 19, 2006. Applicant amends Claims 1, 9, 16, and 23 without prejudice or disclaimer. The amendments to these claims are not the result of any prior art reference and, thus, do not narrow the scope of any of the claims. Furthermore, the amendments are not related to patentability issues and only further clarify subject matter already present. All of Applicant's amendments have only been done in order to advance prosecution in this case. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims and favorable action in this case.

Section 102 Rejection

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-2, 4, 7, 9-11, 14, 16-18, 21, 23-25, 27, and 29 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2004/0028060 issued to Kang (hereinafter "*Kang*").

Applicant has amended Independent Claims 1, 9, 16, and 23 to overcome the Examiner's rejection. *Kang* does not teach or suggest exchanging incremental state information when a sequence number changes. Rather, *Kang* only teaches "flooding" a network with the state of a link between a first and second node. Figure 7 and the appurtenant text of *Kang* clearly indicate that this flooding includes the complete state of the link - not incremental state information. (See, e.g., paragraph 0082.)

The *Kang* method may result in reduced overhead, but the mechanism is entirely different. Accordingly, Independent Claims 1, 9, 16, 23, and their dependents should be allowed over *Kang*.

Section 103 Rejection

The Examiner rejects Claims 5-6, 8, 12-13, 15, 19-20, 22, 26, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kang* in view of U.S. Publication No. 2003/0067924 issued to Choe et al. (hereinafter "*Choe*").

Applicant believes that these rejections are moot in light of the amendments and remarks made above.


CONCLUSION

Applicant has now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for all other reasons clear and apparent, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

No fees are believed to be due, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

If there are matters that can be discussed by telephone to advance prosecution of this application, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact Thomas J. Frame at 214.953.6675.

Respectfully submitted,
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